

REMARKS

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the kind allowance of claims 15 and 16.

The Examiner called attention to the use of the word "caulking" (and variations thereof) and indicated that it is not used in the usual sense. The Examiner suggested that "caulking" and variants be changed to --plastically deforming-- and variants in the specification and claims. The Examiner will note that this has been done.

At the same time, the lengthy specification has been reviewed and a number of amendments made merely to correct grammar and syntax. No new matter has been introduced.

Since all formal matters have been attended to, an early Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

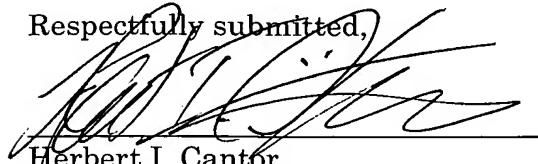
If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #038919.47665C5).

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Reply to Office Action December 28, 2004

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Respectfully submitted,



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